



**MCHENRY COUNTY**  
**PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE (PTAC)**  
**AGENDA • JUNE 17, 2015**

**Public Meeting**

**Conference Room C**

**2:00 PM**

**667 Ware Rd., Woodstock, IL 60098**

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**I. CALL TO ORDER**

***A. Roll Call***

***B. Introductions***

**II. MINUTES APPROVAL**

Public Transportation Advisory Committee (PTAC) - Public Meeting - Mar 11, 2015 2:00 PM

**III. PUBLIC COMMENT**

**IV. REPORTS OF SUBCOMMITTEES - NONE**

**V. OLD BUSINESS**

***A. ITF to PTAC Name Change Approved by County Board***

***B. Transit Component of the 2040 Transportation Plan***

***C. MCRide Program Update***

March Expansion Ridership Data

***D. Taxi Program Discussion***

Discussion of Taxi Memos and Recommendations for the Transportation Committee

**VI. NEW BUSINESS**

***A. 2015-2019 Five Year Transportation Program***

**VII. PTAC MEMBER PRESENTATION (IF TIME PERMITS)**

***A. Susan Dalton - Illinois Bureau of Blind Services***

***B. Ronald Ecklund - Continuum of Care***

**VIII. NEXT MEETING DATE AND LOCATION**

July 8, 2015 at 2:00pm at the McHenry County Administration Building

**IX. ADJOURNMENT**



# MCHENRY COUNTY

## PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE (PTAC)

### MINUTES • MARCH 11, 2015

**Public Meeting**

**County Board Conference Room**

**2:00 PM**

**667 Ware Rd, Administration Building, Woodstock, IL 60098**

#### **I. CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. Hobson called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

#### **II. ROLL CALL**

Regional Transportation Authority Director: Blake Hobson

Pace: Mary Donner, Kisha Hearn, Sally Ann Williams

Metra: Rick Mack

Senior Care Volunteer Network: Sarah Ponitz

Senior Services Associates: Valerie Usalis

Pioneer Center: Tom Riley

Illinois Bureau of Blind Services: Susan Dalton

McHenry County Health Department: Michael Hill

McHenry County Planning and Development Department: Dennis Sandquist

McHenry County Division of Transportation: Scott Hennings, Kirsten Mellem, Joe Korpalski, Jeffrey Young

McHenry County Administration: Scott Hartman

McHenry County Transportation Committee: Tina Hill

Public:

Donna Copeland (Northeastern IL Agency on Aging)

Joe Holterf (Grafton Township, Board Member)

Ronald Ecklund (Continuum of Care)

Bob Miller (Algonquin Township Road District)

Lisa Armour (Village of Huntley, Assistant Village Manager)

#### **III. MINUTES APPROVAL**

1. Public Transportation Advisory Committee (PTAC) - Public Meeting - Jan 14, 2015 2:00 PM

A motion was made by Mack to approve the minutes. Seconded by Dalton. Approved unanimously by voice vote.

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>ACCEPTED BY VOICE</b>
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#### **IV. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mr. Hobson asked if anyone from the audience wanted to make a public comment. Seeing none, meeting continued.

#### **V. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS**

None

#### **VI. OLD BUSINESS**

Minutes Acceptance: Minutes of Mar 11, 2015 2:00 PM (Minutes Approval)

**A. MCRide Program Update - Scott Hennings**

Mr. Hennings, Principal Transportation Planner from MCDOT gave an update on the MCRide dial-a-ride program. He informed the group that trips have continued to increase after a slight dip during the holidays, the cost per trip has increased due to the addition of Lakewood and Nunda Township, and fare box recovery is at 9.3%. This is the first year that MCRide has broke 90,000 annual trips. There will also be a major increase in March with the expansion to seven additional communities.

A comment from the public, Mr. Bob Miller, voiced concern that Algonquin Township was not included in the expansion after an MOU was provided to McHenry County. Mr. Hennings answered the comment stating that all the municipalities in Algonquin Township needed to buy-in to the service, not just Algonquin Township, in order to be part of the MCRide service. This is because of the high cost to provide service to most populated area in the County and lack of interest from the municipalities in Algonquin Township.

**Transfers between Lake and McHenry County Dial-A-Rides**

Mr. Hennings introduced the question from Lake County Transportation Planners and local residents who live on the McHenry/Lake border regarding a way to transfer between systems that was efficient and seamless. The Northwest Demonstration Project in Lake County and the MCRide Dial-A-Ride service run through the same Pace Call Center and the same subcontractor First Transit. Two options were presented to the Committee:

- 1) Coordinated service where a \$1 transfer fee is applied to rides that cross the border in addition to paying the fare rate from the origin dial-a-ride service and then on the return trip pay the origin fare rate plus the \$1 transfer fee. There would be no bus transfer needed.
- 2) Physical bus-to-bus transfer points coordinate by Pace, where a rider would have to unload from one bus and load onto another.

Mr. Hobson proposed that the \$1 transfer scenario seemed like the logical choice and the Committee concurred. Staff was instructed to research further the implications of the \$1 transfer with Pace and Lake County.

**B. ITF Name Change**

Mr. Hobson proposed the Taskforce change their name from the Transit Plan Implementation Task Force to the Public Transportation Advisory Committee. There were no other suggestions from committee members. The Transportation Committee's suggestion better aligns with the work done by the ITF/PTAC. The Committee members concurred with the new name.

**VII. NEW BUSINESS****A. Taxi Voucher Program Discussion**

Staff provided the Taxi Voucher Program Memo dated 1-14-2015. Tina Hill, County Board Member, provided information on comments from the Transportation Committee Meeting on 2-18-2015 regarding taxi vouchers and her own personal research and conversations with a taxi company owner.

Sally Ann Williams, Pace Suburban Bus, also gave a presentation on how the Ride DuPage and Ride in Kane services work from Pace's perspective. Stating that Pace contracts directly with taxi companies, requiring the same drug/alcohol tests, background checks, vehicle inspections, and auditing requirements of the other subcontractors for the bus service. The call center fields the trip requests and then using a software program that accounts for mobility requirements, among other factors, selects the low cost provider to execute the trip.

Mr. Hobson asked for more information regarding the cost per trip, fare box recovery, and number of taxis employed for Kane and DuPage services. He also asked if Pace would use only taxis during hours not currently served by MCRide.

Ms. Hill recommended that options be brought to the Transportation Committee as to how to expand and complement current service with taxis.

Mr. Hobson asked about physical taxi voucher programs. He understands the fraud issue, but would like to know more about how prevalent it is. He also asked about privatizing the whole system by contracting and scheduling the taxis directly by the County, which would require additional County staff but would eliminate Pace.

### ***B. Next Transportation Committee Meetings***

It is recommended that ITF members attend future Transportation Committee meetings to stay informed. Next meeting dates and locations:

- March 18, 2015 at 8:15am at MCDOT, Appointment of Ronald Ecklund (Continuum of Care) to ITF
- April 15, 2015 at 8:15am at MCDOT
- April 1, 2015 at 8:15am at MCDOT
- May 6, 2015 at 8:15am at MCDOT

## **VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

Next Meeting: May 13, 2015 at 2:00 p.m.